

### ***Claims***

1. (Currently amended) An oxygen mask having ~~an improved~~ a means for being secured over the nose and mouth of a patient, the improvement comprising: a pair of elastic bands, both ends of each pair affixed at points of attachment to each of both sides of said mask, said bands extendible to loop over and around each ear of the patient and adjustably securable to said patient by pulling the ends anteriorally through said points of attachment.
2. (Original) The oxygen mask according to claim 1 wherein the elastic bands are affixed at four separate points on the mask.
3. (Original) The oxygen mask according to claim 1 wherein the elastic bands are affixed at two separate points on the mask.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously presented) An oxygen mask comprising a pair of elastic bands, both ends of each pair affixed at points of attachment to each of both sides of said oxygen mask, said bands extendible to loop over and around each ear of the patient and adjustably securable to said patient by pulling the ends anteriorally through said points of attachment.
6. (Previously presented) The oxygen mask according to claim 5, wherein the elastic bands are affixed at four separate points on the mask.
7. (Previously presented) The oxygen mask according to claim 5, wherein the elastic bands are affixed at two separate points on the mask.
8. (Previously presented) An oxygen mask having an improved means for being secured over the nose and mouth of a patient, wherein the oxygen mask comprises a pair of elastic bands, both ends of each pair affixed at points of attachment to each of both sides of said oxygen mask, said bands extendible to loop over and around each ear of the patient and adjustably securable to

said patient by pulling the ends anteriorly through said points of attachment of said oxygen mask.

9. (Previously presented) The oxygen mask according to claim 8, wherein the elastic bands are affixed at four separate points on the mask.

10. (Previously presented) The oxygen mask according to claim 8, wherein the elastic bands are affixed at two separate points on the mask.

11. (New) The mask of claim 1, wherein said mask comprises a nosepiece with two exhalation ports covered with a flap valve.

12. (New) The mask of claim 5, wherein said mask comprises a nosepiece with two exhalation ports covered with a flap valve.

13. (New) The mask of claim 8, wherein said mask comprises a nosepiece with two exhalation ports covered with a flap valve.